



MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

GP 2873

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: T. Shimomura et al.

Attorney Docket No.: MEIP127862

Application No.: 10/599,105

Group Art Unit: 2873

Filed: September 19, 2006

Confirmation No.: 4197

Title: PHOTOELECTRIC ENCODER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Applicants are aware of the information listed in the attached form that may be material to the prosecution of the above-identified patent application.

1. This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior Application No. 10/804,636, filed March 19, 2004. The references listed on the attached form were submitted to and/or cited by the Patent and Trademark Office in this prior application and, therefore, are not required to be provided in this application.
2. A concise explanation of the relevance of document Cite Nos. F4, F5, and F7-F9 (which are not in the English language), as presently understood by the individual designated under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about their content, is provided in an English abstract appended to each document. In addition, a concise explanation of the relevance of document Cite Nos. F2, F4, and F7-F9 is provided in the enclosed International Search Report.
3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first-class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date: October 20, 2006

INFORMATION CITED BY APPLICANTS THAT MAY BE MATERIAL TO THE
PROSECUTION OF THE SUBJECT APPLICATION

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document No.	Kind Code	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Name
_____	U1	3,454,777	A	07/08/1969	Marcus
_____	U2	4,051,367	A	09/27/1977	Sayce, deceased, et al.
_____	U3	4,799,798	A	01/24/1989	Erb
_____	U4	4,948,968	A	08/14/1990	Matsui
_____	U5	4,974,962	A	12/04/1990	Stephens et al.
_____	U6	5,075,562		12/24/1991	Greivenkamp, Jr. et al.
_____	U7	5,539,519	A	07/23/1996	Takagi et al.
_____	U8	5,576,537	A	11/19/1996	Holzapfel
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_____	U10	6,617,572	B2	09/09/2003	Ishizuka
_____	U11	6,635,863	B1	10/21/2003	Nihommori et al.
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_____	U13	2004/0173737	A1	09/09/2004	Shimomura et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Document No.	Kind Code	Publication Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Country	English Abstract Provided	Translation Provided
_____	F1	DE 1 523 231 (corresponding to O2)		05/22/1969	DE		
_____	F2	JP 59-134006		09/07/1984	JP		

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*Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Document No.	Kind Code	Publication Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Country	English
						Abstract Provided
	F3	JP-B-60-23282 (corresponding to U2 above)	B2	06/06/1985	JP	
	F4	JP 62-200223	A	09/03/1987	JP	X
	F5	JP-A-1-57120	A	03/03/1989	JP	X
	F6	JP-B-2610624 (corresponding to F5 above)	B2	02/13/1997	JP	
	F7	JP 2002-231604	A	08/16/2002	JP	X
	F8	JP 2003-021787	A	01/24/2003	JP	X
	F9	JP 2003-307440	A	10/31/2003	JP	X

OTHER INFORMATION
(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

*Examiner Initial	Cite No.
	O1 Berger, C., "Design of Telecentric Imaging Systems for Noncontact Velocity Sensors," <i>Optical Engineering</i> 4(10):2599-2606, October 2002.
	O2 Chinese Office Action (English Translation) issued in Chinese Patent Application No. 2004-10045139.4, 4 pages.

Examiner	Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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